

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

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USDEL MBFR VIENNA

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S E C R E T USNATO 0612

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: AIR MANPOWER: FRG VIEWS

REF: A) STATE 16940; B) STATE 263866; C) STATE 8358; D) STATE
22970; E) USNATO 580; F) STATE 20905

1. FRG DELEGATION OFFICER (HOYNCK), ON PERSONAL BASIS, HAS GIVEN
US A LIST OF POINTS WHICH HE BELIEVES ARE AT THE CORE OF FRG CONCERN
WITH THE US PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE AIR MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING
WITH OPTIONAL US AND SOVIET AIR MANPOWER REDUCTIONS IN PHASE I.
MISSION OFFICER WENT OVER WITH HOYNCK THE US VIEWS ON THESE ISSUES.
FRG REP ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE US HAD RESPONDED TO QUESTIONS OF
THIS SORT IN BRUSSELS, WASHINGTON (REF A), BONN AND VIENNA, BUT FRG
WAS NOT CONVINCED.

2. HOYNCK IS CERTAINLY RIGHT IN SAYING THAT THE FRG REMAINS
UNCONVINCED. THE FRG CONTINUES TO TAKE THE LEAD IN RAISING
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OBJECTIONS TO THE US PROPOSAL. MISSION THEREFORE SUBMITS
THE FRG POINTS, FOR WHATEVER ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE WASHINGTON
MAY WISH TO TRANSMIT. EACH POINT IS ACCOMPANIED BY BRIEF
MISSION COMMENT.

3. POINT 1. WHAT PROFIT FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS DOES THE AMERICAN SIDE HOPE FOR FROM INTRODUCTION OF THE REDUCTION PROPOSAL FOR SOVIET AND AMERICAN AIR MANPOWER? MISSION HAS USED THE RATIONALE IN REF B, REF C, AND PARA 5, REF A.

4. POINT 2. FRG CONSIDERS IT PREMATURE AT THIS TIME TO RAISE THIS QUESTION IN VIENNA. FRG DOUBTS IT WOULD BE PROPER NEGOTIATING TACTICS TO SIGNAL SUCH A SUBSTANTIAL MODIFICATION OF OUR POSITION WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO RECKON WITH ANY REAL CONCESSIONS FROM THE OTHER SIDE. MISSION'S ARGUMENTATION ON THIS POINT IS SUMMARIZED IN REF E, WHICH REQUESTED FURTHER WASHINGTON GUIDANCE.

5. POINT 3. HOW CAN THE US PROPOSAL AVOID HAVING A PREJUDICIAL EFFECT ON PHASE II, BOTH FROM THE STANDPOINT OF INCLUSION OF EUROPEAN AIR MANPOWER IN PHASE II, AND FROM THE STANDPOINT OF THE PRECEDENT OF A 15 PERCENT REDUCTION? MISSION HAS STRESSED THAT THE US PROPOSAL CREATES NO PRECEDENT FOR PHASE II OTHER THAN OPTIONAL INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER. WE HAVE EMPHASIZED THE ASSURANCE TO THE ALLIES CONTAINED IN PARA 8, REF C. THE POSSIBLE 15 PERCENT FIGURE FOR US GROUND AND AIR MANPOWER REDUCTIONS IN PHASE I SETS NO MORE PRECEDENT FOR PHASE II THAN DID THE 15 PERCENT FIGURE FOR US GROUND FORCE REDUCTIONS CONTAINED IN THE ORIGINAL ALLIED NEGOTIATING MANDATE.

6. POINT 4. THE US PROPOSAL WOULD WEAKEN THE FOCUS ON GROUND FORCES, AND WOULD ENDANGER THE OBJECTIVE OF ARRIVING AT A COMMON CEILING FOR GROUND FORCE PERSONNEL. MISSION HAS POINTED OUT THAT US PROPOSAL STILL CALLS FOR WITHDRAWAL OF 68,000 SOVIET GROUND FORCE PERSONNEL, AND COULD EVEN RESULT IN ADDITIONAL GROUND FORCE PERSONNEL REDUCTIONS BY THE SOVIETS. (PARA 3 REF F CONSTITUTES LATEST GUIDANCE ON THIS POINT.)

7. POINT 5. FRG BELIEVES THAT WITHOUT INFORMATION ON AMERICAN VIEWS CONCERNING THE SUBSTANCE OF OPTION III, THE US AIR
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MANPOWER PROPOSAL CANNOT BE FULLY ASSESSED. MISSION HAS POINTED OUT THAT ANY US AIR MANPOWER REDUCTIONS UNDER OPTION III, IF IT IS PLAYED, WOULD BE COUNTED UNDER THE US PROPOSAL ON AIR MANPOWER. WE HAVE NOTED THAT THERE IS THUS NO CONTRADICTION BETWEEN THE US PROPOSAL ON AIR MANPOWER AND OPTION III. (GUIDANCE PROVIDED BY WASHINGTON IN PARA 4, REF D, WILL ALSO BE USEFUL.)BRUCE

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